THE

Theatrical Observer:

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 339. Monday, Dec. 16, 1822. Price 1d.

DRURY-LANE.

Mr. KEAN on Saturday evening, performed the part of *Hamlet* to a numerous and very genteel audience. This is not one of his very best characters, yet it is, like every other of his representations, marked by many great and beautiful touches. We will allude merely to the most striking points of superlative success, and to those of his least happy efforts. The first scene with the Ghost was finely done—the start of surprise, and the gaze of mingled horror and affection, were sublimely true to the character: but he should have kept at a more reverential distance from the unearthly being. The next scenes of his transcendent acting were those of the *Play* and with *Ophelia*. In the latter he strongly marked, amidst his madness, the tenderness of his regard for the Maid—his "*get you to a nunnery*," still sounds in our ear full of melancholy and prophetic meaning.—In the Closet-scene with the *Queen*, he fell greatly short of the effect which we have seen himself produce, and, certainly, in this particular part was surpassed by Mr. YOUNG in his late representation of the character. Mr. Young of the two, "spoke daggers" of the *sharpest* point to the agitated *Gertrude*, and excelled more in the attitudes in which he beheld the Ghost on its entrance and departure.

Mr. MUNDEN'S *Polonius* had all its usual excellence; and Madame VESTRIS was an interesting *Ophelia*. The other characters were very ably filled.

After the *Divertisement*, Mr. TERRY, and Miss CLARA FISHER, proved very entertaining in the new Farce of *Old and Young*. The clever little lady met great applause, and was encored in the following SONG, which she executes with much humor in the assumed character of *Master Foppington*.

With ladies fair, en militaire, I sport a waltzing toe,
Or make one in a dashing set of smart quadrille,
Then round and round, scarce touching ground, so airily we go,
Delightfully as dandies in a Brixton Mill.

I nod to girls a few, with my angel how d'ye do,
Polly, pretty Sally, Kitty, Jane, Maria, Anna, or Sue,
For each kind glance, with nonchalance, they give me one or two,
And every bit an exquisite in me they view.

With gentlemen I now and then may caper round the ring,
And tilbury or tandem drive, till entre nous
At Tattersal's, where every body says I'm quite the thing,
Odds five to one are done and done, till I'm done too.

Then Corinthians I review, at the opera how d'ye do?
In the lobby, Dick and Bobby careless answer how are you?
We make a noise like polish'd boys, kick up a row or two,
While every bit an exquisite in me they view.

COVENT GARDEN.

Maid Marian went off on Saturday evening in excellent style. The singing was delightful, and the humor of *Friar Michael*, was rendered most entertaining by Mr. C. KEMBLE.

The Performance of *Venice Preserved* at this theatre, to-night, will, no doubt, prove very effective. Mr. C. KEMBLE's *Jaffier* is one of his best performances; and Mr. MACREADY's *Pierre* has always been considered an uncommonly fine performance. Miss LACY's *Belvidera*, likewise, has been much admired.

THE "JOHN BULL" AND MISS PATON.

This day week we noticed an Article in the "JOHN BULL" about Miss PATON's being represented in the Covent Garden Play-bills as unable to appear—the following Letter is inserted in *The Bull* of yesterday, on the subject.

"SIR,

In your Paper of Sunday last, I observe that a Correspondent hints that the Managers of Covent Garden Theatre, are using a deception towards the Public in delaying to bring forward Miss PATON in the character of *Mandane*, when she has been well enough to have been singing in Public at Cambridge. For the satisfaction of your Correspondent, if he will feel any *satisfaction* in it, I beg leave to inform him that Miss PATON, when singing here, was evidently labouring under severe indisposition, and her voice, though very sweet and powerful, not in such a state as to warrant a young lady, who is just establishing her fame, to risk her reputation in so arduous a character as *Mandane*. I am sorry to add, that a day or two before Miss P. left Cambridge she met with a very unpleasant accident, in spraining her ankle by a fall; unless, therefore, your Correspondent wishes to see a *limping Mandane*, he must restrain his curiosity for a short time longer.

"I am, Sir, your constant Reader,

Cambridye, Dec. 11, 1822. TAUROPHILUS."

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Published by C. HARRIS, at his Teatrical Library, No. 25, Bow Street, and Sold by CHAPPEL and Son, Roya-Exchange.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden,

This Evening will be performed the Tragedy of

Venice Preserved.

Duke of Venice, Mr. ATKINS,
Priuli, Mr. EGERTON, Bedamar, Mr. CONNOR,
Jaffier, Mr. C. KEMBLE,
Pierre, Mr. MACREADY,
Renault, Mr. CHAPMAN, Theodore, Mr. KING,
Elliott, Mr. HORREBOW,
Spinosa, Mr. CLAREMONT, Durand, Mr. Grant,
Mezzana, Mr. GEORGE, Officer, Mr. LEY,
Captain of the Guard, Mr. JEFFERIES,
Belvidera, Miss LACY.

To which will be added a melo-Drama called

The Blind Boy.

The Music composed by Mr. Davy.

Stanislaus, Mr. CHAPMAN,
Edmund, (the Blind Boy) Mrs. CHATTERLEY,
Rodolph, Mr. CONNOR,
Molino, Mr. MEADOWS, Oberto, Mr. BARTLEY,
Kalig, Mr. FARLEY,
Starow, Mr. HORREBOW,
High Priest, Mr. Louis, Guard, Mr. Norris.
Elvina, Miss LOVE.

To-morrow, Maid Marian, with The London Hermit.

New Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, will be performed, the Tragedy of

Venice Preserved.

Duke of Venice, Mr. THOMPSON,
Jaffier, Mr. KEAN,
Priuli, Mr. POWELL, Bedamar, Mr. MERCER,
Pierre, Mr. YOUNG,
Renault, Mr. MEREDITH, Elliott, Mr KING,
Theodore, Mr. COVENEY,
Durand, Mr. Randall, Mezzana, Mr. E. Crooke,
Spinosa, Mr BARNARD,
Captain of the Guard, Mr. Douglas, Officer, Mr. Read
Belvidera, Mrs. W. WEST.

After which, the Comedy of

Three Weeks after Marriage.

Sir Charles Racket, Mr. ELLISTON.
Drugget, Mr. DOWTON,
Woodley, Mr. COVENEY, Servant, Mr. TURNOUR,
Lady Racket, Mrs. DAVISGN, Mrs. Drugget, Mrs. HARLOWE,
Nancy, Miss PHILLIPS, Dimity, Mrs. ORGER.

To conclude with, the Farce, called

LOCK and KEY.

Brummagem, Mr. J. BARNES,
Cheerly, Mr. HORN, Ralph, Mr. HARLEY,
Captain Vain, Mr. PENLEY,
Laura, Miss CUBITT, Fanny, Hrs. H. HUGHES.
Selina, Mrs. COVENEY,
Servants, Messrs. D. Smith, Randall, Millar, Howard.
Messdms. Cooper, Willis, Pitt, Willmott, &c.

To-morrow, The Way to Get Married, with the Halt of the Caravan, and Old and Young.